

# FLATHEAD COUNTY LONG RANGE PLANNING TASK FORCE

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## MEETING MINUTES (unapproved) THURSDAY, February 08, 2007

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### Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 4:08 p.m.

### Roll Call

#### Members Present

Jed Fisher  
Gary Hall  
Jeff Harris  
Charlie Johnson  
Marcia Sheffels  
Tom Jentz  
Velvet Phillips-Sullivan  
Diana Blend  
Karen Reeves  
Myrt Webb  
Pam Kennedy  
Cara Cameron (secretary)

#### Members Absent

Dennis Hester  
Don Hines  
Mike Meehan  
Mike Pence  
Joe Russell  
Jim Patrick  
Bob Horne  
Bill Shaw  
Turner Askew  
Kerry Finley  
Jane Leivo  
Richard Surynt  
Chuck Roady

#### Others

Jennifer Gerber

Velvet Phillips-Sullivan introduced Jennifer Gerber from Haskill Basin in Whitefish. She is a realtor for Century 21. Whitefish is her home town. She wanted to get involved as a means to help protect the quality of life in the valley.

Jennifer would like to serve as an alternate representing Whitefish.

### Agenda Approval

Velvet made a motion to approve the agenda. Tom Jentz seconded. All approved.

### Minutes Approval

Velvet made a motion to approve the January 11, 2007 minutes. Pam Kennedy seconded. All approved.

### Old Business

#### Rules pertaining to a "quorum" – Dennis Hester (not present)

Gary Hall – we have 12 members present, 10 are required for quorum, and therefore we have a quorum.

### Update membership list

Membership list was passed around for the purpose of updating emails and phone numbers.

## **New Business**

Open discussion on potential areas of focus for the task force:

### **Roads**

Mayor Pam Kennedy - Flathead County is faced with losing \$900,000 in the road budget for next year. How will we fund road projects going forward?

Ideas generated by the group:

- Authorize a .02 cent per gallon gas tax (generate ~\$500,000 per year)?
- Sell forest service lands?
- Gravel haulers /heavy haulers tax?
- \$ on automobile registration
- Bond?
- Special improvement districts, maintenance districts?
- Sales tax?
- Local option tax?
- Pull multiple funding sources (from the above) together to come up with necessary funding.

The task force should establish a committee to research this issue and make a recommendation to the council. The committee could develop an education tool to educate the general community.

Myrt Webb made a motion to establish a transportation committee, Velvet seconded. All approved.

People interested in (or recommended for) the Transportation (Gas Tax) Committee:  
Charlie Johnson, Pam Kennedy, Dennis Hester

Diana Blend recommended that the committee include someone from the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce's transportation committee. She also volunteered to identify someone with financial expertise from the Flathead Builders Association.

Gary suggested that Clell Hoffman from the Ashley Lake land use advisory committee be involved as he has expressed interest in being involved in a gas tax committee.

### **Affordable Housing**

Gary – Affordable Housing would be a good topic for this task force to take on and report back on what is going on around the valley.

Ideas discussed by the group:

- Katrina cottages (to learn more Google 'Katrina Cottages'). An architect has designed small homes that can be added on to.
- Mixed use housing. (e.g. mixture of higher end and affordable houses in the same neighborhood)
- Commercial mixed use (e.g. business below with home in loft)

Pam made a motion to establish an affordable housing committee. Diana seconded. All approved.

People interested in (or recommended for) the Affordable Housing Committee:  
Jennifer Gerber, Velvet Phillips-Sullivan, Diana Blend

### **Land Use**

Myrt - Where will development be encouraged/discouraged? How do we pay for the infrastructure to support development areas? We should form a committee to look at land use.

Ideas discussed by the group:

- Gather up traffic data and let the data lead us to some conclusions.
- Use some of the data collected from various committees might help (i.e. natural resources).
- Community purchase of lands
- TDR's (Transfer of Development Rights)

Pam made a motion to establish a land use committee. Marcia Sheffels seconded. All approved.

People interested in (or recommended for) the Land Use Committee:  
Velvet Phillips-Sullivan, Myrt Webb (Chair), Jeff Harris, Turner Askew, Tom Jentz, Jennifer Gerber

### **Other business for good of the order:**

Next meeting will be held April 12<sup>th</sup>

### **Task Force Member Comment Period**

None.

### **Public Comment Period**

Adrienne Maxwell introduced herself. A law student interested in land use issues.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.